IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

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Kazunari USHIDA et al.

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Serial No. NEW

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β-HYDROXY SHORT TO MEDIUM CHAIN FATTY ACID POLYMER [Corresponding to PCT/JP2004/012638 Filed September 1, 2004]

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the interest of compact prosecution, please amend the present application as follows: